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006Amendment Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.116
Group Art Unit 2624, Expedited Procedure

03500.013834.

PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:)
HIROYUKI SHINBATA ET AL.) Examiner: S.M. Brinich
Application No.: 09/396,740) Group Art Unit: 2624
Filed: September 15, 1999)
For: IMAGE PROCESSING APPARATUS,)
IMAGE PROCESSING METHOD,)
AND RECORDING MEDIUM) January 20, 2004

Mail Stop AF
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

AMENDMENT AFTER FINAL ACTION

Sir:

In response to the Office Action dated November 18, 2003, please amend
the above-referenced application as follows. The claims changes are reflected in the listing
beginning at page 2, and the Remarks begin at page 6.

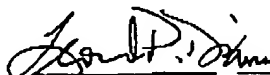
I hereby certify that this correspondence is being transmitted by facsimile
to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office at (703) 872-9306, on

January 20, 2004.

(Date of Transmission)

Leonard P. Diano (Reg. No. 29,296)

(Name of Attorney for Applicant)

January 20, 2004

Signature

Date of Signature